

The Eagle

United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command

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Army Space soldiers come home

by Don Montoya
Army Space Command

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Airports in Colorado Springs and Denver became sites of two special reunions in April. However, to the average person walking by either location, the special meanings were unnoticeable.

These were U.S. Army Space Command soldiers returning home from their six-month deployment with OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM.

The five-person team — Maj. Christopher Baker, Capt. Melissa M. Meagher, 1st Lt. Daryl D. Breitbach, Chief Warrant Officer Jimmy Harrelson and Sgt. 1st Class Robert A. Miller — is with the Space Electronic Warfare Detachment, 1st Space Battalion.

Family members briefly greeted four of them at the Colorado Springs airport gate before journeying to the 1st Space Battalion headquarters for a more formal reunion ceremony. The fifth member of the team, Meagher, flew into the Denver International Airport to have her own special homecoming.

At battalion headquarters, soldiers and civilians prepared a brief ceremony to welcome back their fellow comrades, complete with a banner reading: “Welcome home SEWD-G/S Space Warriors. The 1st Space Battalion salutes you on your safe return from defending our nation’s freedom.”

“These guys experienced a lot of hardship in many regards during this assignment,” Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Scott Netherland said when they arrived. “The weather environment was difficult.”

Realizing team members were anxious to get home and start their own reunions with their families, Netherland said it was necessary to recognize their efforts in the ongoing war against terrorism. He praised them and the Army Space community for rising above what seemed insurmountable odds in bringing together the team to do the job of supporting the warfighter.

Amidst all the welcoming faces in the Space Battalion’s confer-



(Photo by Sharon Hartman)

Maj. Chris Baker holds his infant son, Chris Jr., for the first time in six months. Baker is one of five members of U.S. Army Space Command’s 1st Space Battalion, Space Electronic Warfare Detachment, who recently returned from deployment in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM.

ence room was Brig. Gen. Richard V. Geraci. Geraci is the deputy commanding general for Army Space Command and U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command.

He joked that the members of the team may not recognize him since they have been away so long.

“This is clearly the highlight of my month,” said Geraci as he presented commander’s coins to each team member. “You really set the pace by setting the bar pretty high. I know there was a lot of pain and agony initially trying to get things sorted out. But that’s what happens when you are blazing trails. It is really a privilege and pleasure to welcome you back.”

Baker, who was the spokesman for the team, expressed his gratitude on their accomplishment.

“I was just thinking about these three outstanding men next to me and Capt. Meagher who is in Denver. It was a long six months. We look forward to sharing what we did and learned with the battalion and Army Space Command.

“There were so many outstanding people there, it is really hard to put it into words,” Baker said. “When we were leaving to come home, our group commander came down, briefed us, gave us coins and shook our hands. He called us the ‘A’ Team, which is hooah!”

You really set the pace by setting the bar pretty high. I know there was a lot of pain and agony initially trying to get things sorted out. But that’s what happens when you are blazing trails. It is really a privilege and pleasure to welcome you back.

— Brig. Gen. Richard V. Geraci

National Guard Space Support Team deploys

by Capt. Laura Kenney
Army Space Command

COLORADO SPRINGS — A team of National Guard Space operators deployed May 8 on a mission to replace a similar team in Kuwait. This rotational deployment is significant for both the National Guard and Army Space Command, as this movement of an Army Space Support Team from the 193rd Space Support Battalion is a first for the reserve component.

This element of the 193rd — part of the Colorado Army National Guard — mobilized along with much of its parent battalion, Jan. 7 for OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. They will replace an Active Component unit from 1st Space Battalion of Army Space Command, continuing the mission of providing Space expertise and access to Space assets in support of the global war on terrorism.

The deploying team’s mission revolves around integrating satellite-enhanced capabilities into daily military operations.

The areas of communication, navigation, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, environmental monitoring and missile warning operations are improved exponentially with the assistance of satellites.

Staff Sgt. James K. Dunlap, Jr., said, “I’ve deployed before, but it was as a single soldier. It goes without saying that I’ll miss my wife, but we’ll stay in touch through e-mails and phone calls. This is a job I signed up to do.”

Dunlap is the topographic systems NCO for the team.

His wife Kathy Dunlap said, “We’re newlyweds, so this is going to be a bit tough. But I’m former military myself, Navy, so I know how this goes.”

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Commanding General's Corner

May is National Military Appreciation Month — a month filled with numerous opportunities to recognize and remember those past and present who have selflessly given of themselves to defend this great nation from those who would cause it harm. May was chosen because it is the month in which the United States observes Memorial Day, Military Spouse Day and Armed Forces Day.

May 10 was set aside as Military Spouse Day to recognize the countless contributions of military spouses. These men and women face many challenges as they manage the unique demands military life places on them and their families. Dealing with deployments, family separations and frequent moves requires special skills and commitment. Throughout our nation's history, military spouses have not only met these challenges, but their energy and dedication have helped our military communities to thrive. Their selfless contributions play a vital role in the stability of our service members and our communities.

We recognize Armed Forces Day on the third Saturday of May (May 18 this year), and have done so ever since President Harry Truman established it in late 1949. Traditionally, the day is filled with parades, open houses, receptions and air shows. The day is as much an event to honor the military as it is an opportunity for expanding public understanding of the military by showing them our "state-of-the-art" equipment.

Memorial Day (celebrated this year on



Lieutenant General
Joseph M. Cosumano Jr.

were mindful, as well, of the daily peril of troops stationed around the world and of those training here at home to keep us safe.

This year these events have taken on very special meaning. We have now been at war against terrorism for eight months. Since that tragic Tuesday morning in September, Americans have developed a new appreciation for the role of our Armed Forces. People place a new value on the local Guard and Reserve troops serving in their communities, and the bonds are closer with our troops deployed to distant lands.

Like all other Major Army Commands, the SMDC family (soldiers, civilians, contractors, our spouses and children) responded immediately after the Sept. 11 attacks. Our deployed JTACS soldiers in Korea and Germany went on high alert to monitor for any hostile ballistic missile launch. Our satellite control companies kept the super-high frequency communi-

May 27) was organized shortly following the Civil War with the purpose of honoring deceased soldiers. Later, the holiday took on greater meaning as it began to include the dead from other conflicts. On this day last year, our thoughts were focused on sacrifices made during previous wars. We

cation networks open. Our Battle Lab deployed a test capability — the Future Operational Capability Tactical Operations Center (or FOC TOC) — in support of the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) operations. Individual soldiers were deployed in support of numerous planning cells around the country. Family members pulled together to prepare donations for the victims of the terrorist attacks. And the list goes on.

Today, the Command remains actively engaged in the war — having recently deployed overseas a third JTACS team and an Army Space Support Team — and we continue to provide critical support from our numerous CONUS- and forward-based locations. Many SMDC personnel deployed earlier remain deployed today.

Back in December, Secretary of the Army Thomas White, and Gen. Eric Shinseki, Army Chief of Staff, issued a statement that is still relevant today. "The right of each individual to self-determination and the right of our citizens to live without fear, without hunger and without oppression — these are the gifts the soldier defends for the American people and for freedom-loving people everywhere who would choose the costly struggle for these rights."

As the month of May progresses, I ask that you take time out of your busy schedules to participate in the various activities of your communities to remember the sacrifices made by all the members of the military family — past and present.

SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!

What We Think

The Eagle asks:

What advice would you give to someone confronted with a serious illness?



Hurley Hughes,
Accounting Department,
Resource Management,
Huntsville

"The best advice I have for everyone is to live every day to the fullest, since none of us is ever certain that we'll have a tomorrow. Don't become your illness, and keep a positive outlook on life. Get the best medical help available. Pray and trust God for your eternity."



Paula Brumlow,
Personnel Office,
Huntsville

"You must try to keep a positive attitude and trust in God to get you through. When I learned I had cancer, the doctors assured me it was normal to have lots of different feelings, i.e., anger, hurt, concern, etc. I have been taught all my life that the day you are born is the day you start to die, but it is different when you are told you have something that can take your life sooner than expected. I am fortunate to work for and with a wonderful group of people who have been very supportive and understanding."



Sgt. 1st Class Brent
Maloy, NCOIC, Personnel Office,
Arlington

"If a serious illness has invaded your life, refuse to let it touch your spirit. Your body can be severely afflicted, and you may have a great struggle. But if you seek physical, emotional, social and spiritual support from your minister, family and friends, and trust in God's love, your spirit will remain strong."

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Commentary:

Are intruders in your digital dumpster?

by Lt. Col. John H. Quigg

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) — Is a hacker or foreign agent rooting around in your digital backyard at home?

Systems administrators protect you at work, but when you get home, look in a mirror — this is the systems administrator who protects your home computer. How good are you? Even if you are digitally savvy, are your children? Your spouse? Would they open an attachment or get into an online chat with a stranger?

Today your position makes you a candidate for any number of people trying to leverage or target you and your organization. Using a home computer requires some of the same considerations as operating a car in Europe in the 80s. You had to open the hood, the doors, and check under the car to make sure you didn't: A) have a bomb, and B) bring it on post. Without that same attention to detail, a home computer system can be compromised and used against you.

Computer protection requires extra effort and the consequences of failure are dire. We tend to think that our home lives are separate from work, but the Internet provides an alternate avenue of approach for those who would do us harm.

The first thing attackers or agents of foreign governments will do is recon the target. Do you own land? Many property transactions are public record with all your contact and tax information. Driver's licenses, social security numbers, phone numbers, and addresses are easily obtainable from any number of online sources. With this information it is rather simple to assume an identity — not to

take out credit cards or to purchase things (although that is an everyday criminal threat), but to monitor your activities (dialing in to your credit card company with SSN, mothers maiden name, address, etc... to vouch identity and get a list of transactions tracing your activities and location for the last 30 days), get background information, or to masquerade as you (calling the night shift and pretending you can't remember your password — it happens all the time in the business world.)

How much of your personal information is on the Internet already? Within the last month, police discovered a plot to steal military retirees' identities. The alleged criminal found his information by using the Internet to search public records in various courthouses where the retirees had filed their DD Form 295s.

Take the test — go to an Internet search engine (ask the kids) and type in your name, your spouse's, and your children's. Some of you will be amazed at just how much "private" information there is about you on the Internet. A very minimal scan on a general officer yielded that his staff had done a wonderful job of removing useable official information from the net. As a VIP, however, much of his personal life was out there. His mother-in-law's funeral write up, for instance, listed his wife's name, nickname, children, addresses, spouses, etc... Mine gave up a list of conferences attended, Command and General Staff College list, etc...and there are much better tools available.

Does your biography mention your foreign language skills? A good hacker will

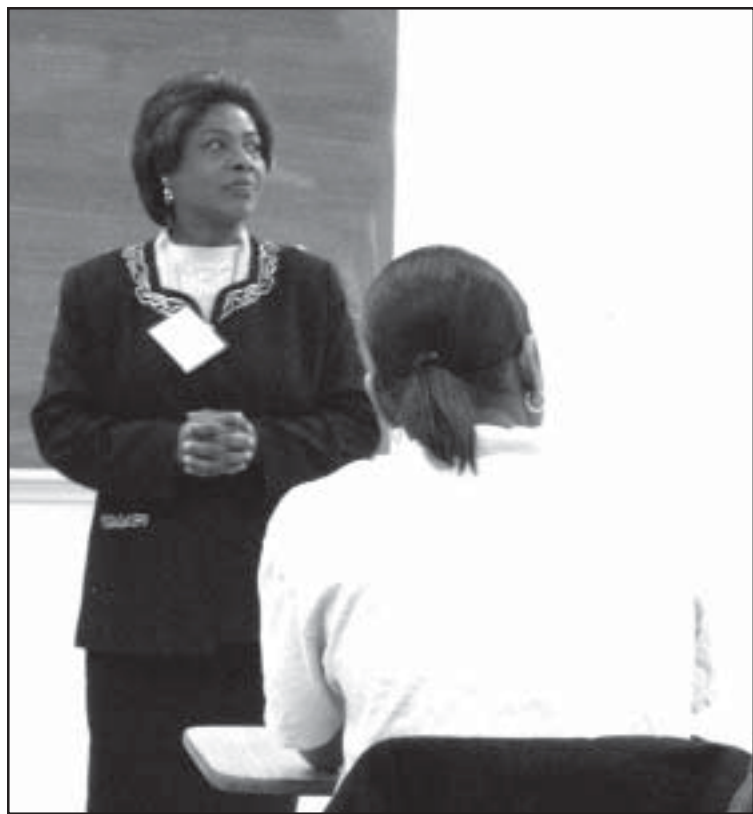
add that language to their password-cracking program. The list is endless but the point is that you need to be mildly paranoid about what information is available out there.

When you link to the Internet, do you use a personal firewall? If you link via your government computer, your machine is protected by the Army's network, but from home if you dial up via a commercial Internet provider there is almost no protection. Because of limited reach off post, your digital presence and security is dependent on your own personal home defenses — how good are yours?

Most of us need to be "connected" and available no matter where we are, and technology has made great leaps to help us maintain our connection. Wireless systems keep us in touch with the office no matter where we go, but how secure are they? "Mine is secure," you say. Are you sure?

Most are good solutions, as wireless goes, but the only thing they encrypt is e-mail traffic. The calendar information is out in the open when it goes across the airwaves — not an issue for some, but the higher your position, the more interesting your schedule is to those who would do you harm. Make sure intruders aren't rooting around through your digital dumpster — balance and mitigate your risks to reduce threats to yourself, your family, and the Army.

(Editor's note: Lt. Col. John Quigg is the Army Network Security Improvement Program chief with the Office of the Army Chief Information Officer, G-6.)



(Photo by Jonathan Pierce)

Motivating youth

Carolyn Harris listens to a student's question at Alabama A&M University. Harris, along with six other Space and Missile Defense Command employees in Huntsville, participated in the 28th Annual Youth Motivation Task Force April 8-9 by sharing information with students about job responsibilities, career opportunities and key factors for success. The six other SMDC members were Barbara Scales, Lucile Reeves, Bunnie Scales, Juanita Sales, William Reeves and Rudolph Love. The SMDC team joined professionals from other government and industry representatives in introducing students to the job market. Juanita Sales and Lucile Reeves were commended for Top Team Youth Motivational Task Force 2001.

Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month

Nation celebrates in May

by Lt. Gen. Joseph M. Cosumano Jr.
Commanding General, SMDC

To honor the achievements of Asian-Pacific Americans and to recognize their many contributions to our Nation, Public Law 102-450 designates the month of May as Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month.

The United States continues to greatly benefit from the contributions of its diverse citizenry. Among our citizens who have influenced our country, Asian-Pacific Americans merit special recognition. They bring to our society a rich cultural heritage representing many languages, ethnicities and religious traditions.

The theme for this year's observance is "Unity in Freedom — Honoring the Accomplishments of Asian and Pacific Americans in the Military." In recognition of this observance, you are encouraged to learn more about the rich heritage and culture of Asian-Pacific Americans.

I encourage all U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) employees to attend government, private sector and community activities going on in observance of this month. Consistent with mission requirements, attendance at these observances will be considered duty time.

I call upon each of you to endeavor to learn more about the contributions and history of Asian-Pacific Americans and to celebrate the role they play in the accomplishments of our society.

I value the Asian-Pacific American employees of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and appreciate their contributions to our mission accomplishments.



Northern Command to debut in October

by **Jim Garamone**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Defense officials last month announced the establishment of U.S. Northern Command as part of the changes in the Unified Command Plan. U.S. Air Force Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart has been nominated to command Northern Command.

At a Pentagon press briefing, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, called the plan the most sweeping set of changes since the unified command system was set up in 1946.

“(The plan) realigns and streamlines U.S. military structure to better address 21st century threats,” Rumsfeld said. For the first time, commanders’ areas of operations cover the entire Earth.

The biggest change is U.S. Northern Command. The new command will stand up Oct. 1 at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. The NORTHCOM commander will be responsible for homeland defense and also serve as head of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, a U.S.-Canada command. The current NORAD commander is also the commander of U.S. Space Command, also at Peterson. That command will not go away, but it will have a separate four-star officer heading it.

NORTHCOM’s area of operations will include the United States, Canada, Mexico, parts of the Caribbean and the contiguous waters in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

“The new commander will be responsible for land, aerospace and sea defenses of the United States,” Rumsfeld said. “He will command U.S. forces that operate within the United States in support of civil authorities.” The command will provide civil support not only in response to attacks, but for natural disasters. NORTHCOM takes the homeland defense role from the U.S. Joint Forces Command. JFCOM’s Joint Task Force–Civil Support and related activities will report to NORTHCOM.

JFCOM headquarters are in Norfolk, Va. The command will retain its mission as a “force generator” to the geographical commands. The change will free the command to focus on its mission of helping to transform the U.S. military. This includes experimentation, innovation, improving interoperability and

reviewing, validating and writing joint doctrine and preparing battle-ready joint forces and coordinating joint training, simulation and modeling.

The current commander of Joint Forces Command is dual-hatted as NATO’s supreme allied commander, Atlantic. That alliance command will be split off, and U.S. officials will consult with NATO allies to see how they want this handled.

U.S. European Command will increase its area of responsibility, Myers said. EUCOM will include the remainder of the Atlantic area off the East Coast to the shores of Europe, he said, and it will pick up primary responsibility for Russia. Previously, Russian relations were handled in the Pentagon.

“Russia’s new status will give them the best of both worlds,” Myers said. “They will have a command close by geographically that can deal with our military-to-military relationship on a daily basis and still maintain a dialogue with Washington.”

The change allows more cooperation and coordination between the U.S. and Russian militaries, Myers said. “It is one more signal that our post-Cold War relationship is improving,” he said. Myers said U.S. Central Command and U.S. Southern Command would remain as is. U.S. Pacific Command will help European Command with the far eastern part of Russia and will add Antarctica to its area of responsibility.

One anomaly is Alaska. NORTHCOM will cover the state, but the troops based there will be earmarked for PACOM.

Myers said the Space, Transportation, Strategic and Special Operations commands will not change right now. “We are, however, looking to the possible merger of Space Command and Strategic Command, and a study of that is under way,” he said. The results of the study will go to Rumsfeld later this year.

Both Rumsfeld and Myers emphasized that DoD’s most important mission is to defend the U.S. homeland. “The changes made to the Unified Command Plan will help us to defend, to transform and to help us stand solidly with our friends and allies across the globe,” Rumsfeld said.

The chairman is responsible for reviewing the Unified Command Plan on a three-year cycle. The plan announced in April was early and in response to the changed world since Sept. 11.

Pageantry, history make evening memorable

Army Space Command celebrates 14 years

by **Capt. Laura Kenney**
Army Space Command

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — U.S. Army Space Command celebrated its 14th anniversary April 12 with a military ball.

“Your motto ‘First in Space’ says it all,” Air Force Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart told the Army audience. “You were there first. It pains me to say it, but you led the way.”

“You put the first two-stage rocket — the Bumper — into Space in 1948. So claiming 14 years of age doesn’t really do you justice,” said Eberhart, commander-in-chief of both North American Aerospace Defense Command and the U.S. Space Command, of which ARSPACE is a component.

Eberhart then involved the audience in an “interactive speech,” posing questions that sometimes stumped the crowd about early Space involvement. Each answer included the word Army.

He asked questions like “Who built Cape Canaveral?” and “Who put up the first satellite?” The answer is the U.S. Army.

Although Army Space Command has an official “birth year” of 1988, the Army’s connection to Space can be traced back to World War II, Eberhart said, with the establishment of the Ordnance Rocket

Branch in 1943 to manage the development of rockets.

The branch’s efforts received a huge push with the surrender of top German rocket scientists, including the famous Wernher von Braun, to the Army in 1945.

The launch of the Bumper in 1948 was followed soon by the successful development and launch of the Redstone rocket.

The Army can also claim other firsts, such as the first American satellite, Explorer I, in 1958, calming fears raised by

the Soviet Sputnik. An Army officer, then Lt. Col. Robert Stewart, was one of the first two human beings to ever “walk” in Space without a tether. Stewart is now a retired brigadier general.

The Army is also the only service to ever design, develop, build and field a ground-based national defense system, the 1976 Safeguard System.

Lt. Gen. Joseph M. Cosumano Jr. and Command Sgt. Maj. Wilbur Adams participated in the ceremonies. Cosumano is the commanding general of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and U.S. Army Space Command. Adams is the command sergeant major for both commands as well.

The birthday cake was cut with a saber by them and the youngest soldier in the command, Pfc. Jennifer Swift, 1st Satellite Control Battalion.

Eberhart lauded the dedication to mission of Space Command’s soldiers.

“Everything we do, we do better because of you,” he said. “You should be immensely proud, especially when looking at your achievements in the war on terrorism. I came here specifically to thank you, Army Space, for all you have done, and will do. I salute you.”



Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart, commander in chief, U.S. Space Command, spoke about the contributions of the Army in the arena of Space, during the 14th Annual U.S. Army Space Command Birthday Ball at the Wyndham Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colo. President Bush on May 8 nominated Eberhart to head the new Northern Command. (Photo courtesy U.S. Air Force)

Civilian News

Long Term Care Insurance open season begins July 1

Rates and benefits for Long Term Care Insurance are available online at: <http://www.opm.gov/insure/ltc> and at <http://www.ltcfeds.com>. It is worth spending some time at both sites.

The early enrollment period allowed those individuals who had already done their homework and know all about long term care and long term care insurance (LTCI) to sign up.

All of the benefits and rates from early enrollment will be available again during open season July 1 through Dec. 31. Open season will also have other benefits available, and rates for those benefits will be announced much closer to the start of open season.

You can talk to a certified long term care insurance specialist at (800) 582-3337 from 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, Monday through Friday.

For more information, check the following Web sites:

- OPM Long Term Care Insurance: <http://www.opm.gov/insure/ltc>
- Early Enrollment Period Premium Calculator: <http://www.opm.gov/insure/ltc/calculator/intro.htm>
- LTC Partners: <http://www.ltcfeds.com>
- LTC Partners toll-free phone number: (800) 582-3337
- Open Season: July 1-Dec. 31

OPM director says training is 'in'

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Kay Coles James, director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, recently told a luncheon assembly of human resources and training professionals that "training is back in style," and that tight budgets should not deter agency investment in employee development programs.

"We can find the money to do things that are a priority," James told a record-setting luncheon audience attending the Training Officers Conference at the Fort McNair Officers Club in Washington. "So if training is a tool we use to help recruit and retain top people in government, then training should be considered a priority, and you must find the money to do it."

On the strategic management of human capital, James noted that training tops her list of priorities, as well as the list of priorities of President Bush, the nation's first chief executive with an advanced degree in management.

On the issue of opportunities to receive training, James rhetorically asked, "Who doesn't get these offers?" She answered by saying that top managers and employees often get passed-over for academic exercises at OPM's Federal Executive Institute and other venerable venues because agency officials, fearing the impact on workloads, resist losing key people for extended periods.

"This is not a problem in the private sector; they train their top people," said James. "Top college graduates will look more favorably toward public service if we can answer this common question: 'What are my opportunities to learn, grow and advance?'" James added that obstacles to professional development would only dissuade talented, young people from joining the federal ranks.

Web mail now available

You can now view your mail via the Web from your home PC/laptop, kiosk, or from your government laptop while at home or TDY. Instructions for accessing your SMDC mail account through the Web are on the front page of the CommandNet.

Under "What's New" click on Web Mail, this will open a Word document that describes the use of Web mail. On line three of the document is another link that will further detail instructions on precisely how to access your SMDC mail account.

Direct links are: <http://commandnet/Docs/DCSIM/WebMail/OWA.doc> and <http://commandnet/Docs/DCSIM/WebMail/OWAs.doc>.

For more information, call the help desk at (256) 955-1593.

Military News

More soldiers qualify for EIC

WASHINGTON, D.C. (American Forces Press Service) — Tax changes affecting reportable income for this year will mean more service members qualify for the earned income tax credit (EIC), said Defense Department officials.

Congress has changed the way income is figured and the way the credit is paid. Uniformed military members will be the chief beneficiaries, according to Army Lt. Col. Tom Emswiler, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council.

In the past, he said, the basic allowances for housing and subsistence and pay excluded from income due to combat zone service was included in calculating whether a person qualified for the earned income tax credit. The credit was "paid" with the filing of one's annual income tax return.

"This year Congress is only going to make you include the money in your taxable income," Emswiler said. The allowances and tax exclusion won't count as earned income when computing the credit, he noted. In addition, Thrift Savings Plan contributions also will be excluded.

The earned income credit is for employees who don't make a lot of money. Income limits this year are \$29,201 (\$30,201 if married filing jointly) if you have one qualifying child; \$33,178 (\$34,178 if married filing jointly) if you have more than one qualifying child; and \$11,060 (\$12,060 if married filing jointly) if you do not have a qualifying child. Other rules also apply.

Refundable credits, like the earned income tax credit, are worth more than deductions because they reduce income taxes dollar for dollar and the government pays the taxpayer any credit remaining after the tax due falls to zero. For most persons claiming the credit, deductions would reduce taxes by 28 cents or less on the dollar and then only to zero.

Instead of waiting for a lump-sum annual credit payment, taxpayers can request advance monthly installments now if they expect both their annual earned income and adjusted gross income to be less than \$29,201 (\$30,201 if married filing jointly); they have or expect to have at least one qualifying child; and they expect to qualify for the credit in tax year 2002.

Service members with questions about the credit should visit their installation Defense Finance and Accounting Service office or legal assistance office. The Internal Revenue Service Web site [<http://www.irs.gov>], www.irs.gov, can provide full details, forms and guidance. Click on "Earned Income Credit," Publication 596; or "Your Income Tax," IRS Publication 17; or enter "Earned Income Credit" into the site's search engine box.

Members who believe they qualify for advance monthly credit payments this year should fill out IRS Form W-5, available at installation DFAS offices or on the IRS Web site, Emswiler said.

Web site helps soldiers certify skills

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) — Soldiers who want to develop professional civilian skills while serving in the Army now have a COOL way to see what can be required for the career field in which they are interested.

The Army Continuing Education System launched a Credentialing Opportunities On-Line, or COOL, Web site April 15 that identifies the education, experience and testing requirements to earn certification or licenses for hundreds of civilian jobs.

COOL is located on the Web at: www.armyeducation.army.mil/cool.

"We do not credential soldiers for civilian jobs," said Louie Chartier, post secondary education program manger, Army Education Division. "What this program does is educate soldiers about what is needed to get credentials for the job they want to pursue following the Army. The COOL Web site provides analysis information that links military occupational specialties with similar civilian equivalent jobs."

About 71 percent of Army MOSs have civilian equivalents that are subject to certification or licensure, according to ACES statistics. The Web site allows a soldier to enter the analysis section by specific MOS, or, if interested in credentialing requirements outside his MOS, by job title.

Costs for certification tests can be anywhere from \$100 to \$2,000, Chartier said. But the good news is soldiers can use up to \$2,000 of their Montgomery GI Bill per test, she said.

Chartier said she encourages soldiers to use Army Computer-Based Training, also known as SmartForce, for information technology preparation courses accessed through an Army Knowledge Online account or from a Department of Defense computer.

The SmartForce courses are free to soldiers and Department of the Army civilians. The SmartForce Web site address is www.atrrs.army.mil/channels/eLearning/smartforce.

Controller of the Year

New distinction created for satellite controllers

by Spc. Bradley Morrow
Unit reporter

LANDSTUHL, Germany — Soldier boards are familiar to those who serve their country dressed in Army green. They attend boards for promotion purposes, to advance personal military knowledge and confidence, to set examples for other soldiers to follow and for tangible rewards.

The soldier board evaluates individuals based on the "Total Soldier" concept, and renders judgment of military aptitude based on knowledge that should be common among all soldiers, regardless of military occupational specialty. The best known of these boards are probably the Soldier and NCO of the Year boards.

So, the innovative soldiers and NCOs of Charlie Company developed and put into action a plan to focus future evaluations on a more complete picture of the true "Total Soldier." The idea of a job specific board or evaluation may not be original, but the Charlie Co. embodiment of this concept most definitely is.

"Infantry soldiers have the Expert Infantry Badge. Cavalry soldiers have their spurs. Now, at least in Charlie Co., 1st Satellite Control Battalion, highly specialized technicians have a symbol of excellence to strive for," said Sgt. John Bennett, 23-year-old winner of the first "Controller of the Year" title in the newly created competition.

"I think this is an excellent training tool. It inspires soldiers. Some people are not natural born leaders, but are, and prefer to remain, expert technicians. This is a way to recognize them for the expertise they have and demonstrate every day. This can be a technician's mark of distinction. I want my soldiers to realize they can be recognized and awarded for excellence in their field, and I hope that by winning this competition, I've demonstrated this to them."

I think this is an excellent training tool. It inspires soldiers. Some people are not natural born leaders, but are, and prefer to remain, expert technicians. This is a way to recognize them for the expertise they have and demonstrate every day.

— Sgt. John Bennett

Bennett hails from Hanover Park, a suburb of Chicago, and has been in the unit two-and-a-half years of his four years in the Army.

The soldiers of Charlie Co. are communications payload controllers for the Army's Defense Satellite Communication System. Suitable performance of this job requires acute attention to detail and a very high degree of knowledge in the theories and operation of satellite-based communications.

Servicing and repairing equipment are important aspects of the job, but the majority of a controller's time at work is spent sitting in front of a computer screen monitoring various parts of the network.

The new "Controller of the Year" board is designed to spark bright flames of competition among the controllers and to restore their excitement at being some of the most depended upon soldiers in the Army.

Sgt. 1st Class Javier Montero explained, "Our job here is not just training. We do the real thing every day, and sometimes it gets tedious and mundane. We operate in the background. People would notice us the most only if we were failing to provide the communications vital to the nation. This board recognizes that we have soldiers who take a lot of pride in what they do here, even when they get overlooked."

The board consists of a two-hour written examination, with questions covering the full spectrum of satellite network control and communications topics, and a practical evaluation where the soldiers demonstrate their proficiency at accomplishing job-related tasks. Experts in each of the tested areas observe and



(Photo by Mike Howard)

Sgt. John Bennett talks to his squad members during a weekly meeting at the C Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion's Landstuhl facility in Germany. Bennett is the company's controller of the year.

grade each soldier's performance and provide helpful feedback. Spc. Shawn Michaud, the winner of the second quarter board, said, "I think it's a great way to improve our self-esteem and increase our job confidence."

A desire to excel in a career field is integral in creating a team of experts in any occupation. Competition among soldiers is encouraged throughout the Army, and competing for recognition is a great way to get soldiers more interested in learning and performing to their maximum potential.

Several soldiers contending for the first "Controller of the Year" title emphasized their competitive attitude. Spc. Mathew Lavelle of First Squad said, "I think this is in the best interest of our career progression, not just to win, but even to compete."

"Lavelle and I are both sick, but we still wanted to be here. Whether I win or not, I'll still enjoy the competition," said Spc. Jonathon Merritt just before starting the written exam.

Highlighting the motivational value of this type of competition, some soldiers, like Lavelle, who worked a 12-hour shift immediately prior, and Merritt, who worked a 12-hour shift the previous day, ignored exhaustion and gave up much of their precious free time to participate in the board.

Supervisors and squad leaders also reap the benefits of this program. Sgt. Brandon Rennirt of Second Squad noted, "This will give me a good idea of operational weaknesses that I can target for improvement in my soldiers."

Montero said he hoped the program would show the soldiers that, "Number one, we care about them. Number two, we appreciate everything they do. Three, it is important to maintain skills and keep improving proficiency. And lastly, the competitive nature of the boards will foster a more creative learning environment."

All of the administrators, developers and participants unanimously agreed that it would be, "outstanding," and "absolutely wonderful," if the idea ignited the competitive spirit of the other companies in the battalion. One of the goals highly spoken about by participants was a battalion-sponsored program with a battalion level "Controller of the Year" board and rewards to match.

Sometimes a controller may not exercise a particular skill or ability for extended periods of time. It is easy to lose technical ability under those circumstances, but the soldiers are still expected to maintain those skills and demonstrate them when called upon.

"It's good training for inspection, and it helps keep us on our toes," said Spc. Jeffrey Yauch of Third Squad. He then added, "The rewards may or may not come, but it has its own natural benefits for all of us, the unit and the Army."

"This continually encourages the soldiers to excel. They become more motivated to learn," said Sgt. 1st Class Gregory Denton when asked about the greatest rewards of the program.

Competition, and the unceasing desire to reach greater heights, is what helped America become the world's example of success. That desire is commonly found in soldiers, and burns very brightly, in a new form, for the soldiers/technicians of Charlie Company.

Soldier/NCO of the Year

Regional winners head to SMDC Hq for final round

by Sharon L. Hartman
Army Space Command

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — The time-honored tradition of soldiers competing to prove excellence in their fields is strongly entrenched within Space and Missile Defense Command.

SMDC recently held Regional Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year Boards in each of the command’s four regions — Western United States, Eastern United States, Europe and the Pacific. In June, the winners from each region will travel to Washington, D.C., to compete against each other for the highly acclaimed titles of SMDC NCO and Soldier of the Year.

“The significance of the boards is each unit putting their best soldier forward to be recognized,” said Sgt. Maj. Daniel Rutledge, sergeant major for SMDC Operations and Plans, who served as the president for the Eastern Region Board.

“Overall it’s a great mental and physical challenge,” Rutledge

said. “The soldiers are asked questions on every topic you can think of about the Army and are also graded on their PT scores and weapons qualifications.

“A lot of hard work goes into preparing for the competition. The competitors are sent a list of approximately eight topics that will be addressed at their boards, and these questions are not run of the mill questions. They go deep into the regulations and deep into each subject of the Army.”

“In addition, each soldier must prepare a five- to seven-minute speech on a contemporary military topic that affects soldiers in the unit and must undergo a stringent uniform inspection,” said Spc. Robert Orndoff, the Western Region Soldier of the Year.

“These boards give soldiers a chance to really show their stuff,” Rutledge said. “It distinguishes each soldier who makes it to the competition for the command title. Not everyone is going to win of course, but they should feel honored to be here.”

The NCOs:



Staff Sgt.
Charles Ahlborn
– European
Region NCO of
the Year

Unit: C Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion
Home of record: Harwood, Md.
Spouse’s name/home of record: Madita Ahlborn/
Karlsruhe, Germany
Hobbies: Country western dancing, sports
Length of time with the command: On and off for six
years
Education/training: AIT (31S) Fort Gordon, Ga.
Future plans: Short-term – to become a first seargeant;
long-term – attend Sergeants Major Academy
What do you like about being a soldier? Interaction with
other soldiers
Who is your mentor and why? Sgt. 1st Class Gregory
Denton because he leads with a firm, but fair hand.



Sgt. Robert E.
Lewis – Eastern
Region NCO of
the Year

Unit: B Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion
Home of record: Kansas City, Mo.
Spouse’s name/home of record: Staff Sgt. Kristina Lewis/
Henniker, N.H.
Hobbies: Basketball, boxing, weightlifting, reading
Length of time with the command: 3.5 years
Education/training: AIT – Fort Gordon, Ga.; PLDC – Fort
Bragg, N.C.; NBC School – Fort Dix, N.J.; currently attend-
ing Anne Arundel Community College in Maryland.
Future plans: Re-enlist and complete a four-year degree
What do you like about being a soldier? Being a soldier
for me is a rite of passage. I am a third-generation soldier.
It’s an honor to defend the many rights and privileges we
have as Americans.
Who is your mentor and why? The average person. Take
something from everyone you encounter from Sun Tzu to
the mailman. It’s important to develop attitudes for
success as well as setbacks, so you learn from everyone.



Staff Sgt. Darrick
M. Noah – Pacific
Region NCO of
the Year

Unit: E Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion
Home of record: Fullerton, Calif.
Spouse’s name/home of record: Lenora Noah/
Hephzibah, Ga.
Hobbies: Scuba diving, surfing, sports
Length of time with the command: 3 years
Education/training: Basic training – Fort Jackson, S.C.; AIT
(31S) ASI 1C – Fort Gordon, Ga.; PLDC – Camp Jackson,
Republic of Korea
Future plans: BA in business management from the
University of Hawaii
What do you like about being a soldier? Esprit de corps
and pride in your work
Who is your mentor and why? Many individuals have
contributed to my development, both senior and subordi-
nate. Every individual I’ve had the privilege to work with
has mentored me in some shape or form.



Sgt. John S.
Rogers –
Western Region
NCO of the Year

Unit: D Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion
Home of record: Bartlesville, Okla.
Spouse’s name/home of record: Tracie Rogers/Miami,
Okla.
Hobbies: Camping, backpacking, basketball, softball
Length of time with the command: 16 months
Education/training: Fort Gordon, Ga.
Future plans: Promotion to Staff Sgt. and re-enlist to go to
either Fort Gordon, Ga., or Landstuhl, Germany
What do you like about being a soldier? The opportunity to
travel to new places. The opportunity to mentor young
soldiers and impact their lives. The educational opportuni-
ties.
Who is your mentor and why? Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Mobry.
He has been a positive role model and sets the example of
how an NCO should lead and be.



Spc. Christopher
M. Conn –
Eastern Region
Soldier of the
Year

Unit: B Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion
Home of record: Virginia Beach, Va.
Hobbies: Playing guitar, computer games, reading, hiking
Length of time with the command: 2 years
Education/training: Basic Training – Fort Jackson, S.C.;
AIT (31S) – Fort Gordon, Ga.
Future plans: Win SMDC Soldier of the Year, obtain a
bachelor’s degree in music or music education
What do you like about being a soldier? It makes my
family and me proud for me to serve my country. Being a
31S is very rewarding.
Who is your mentor and why? Several NCOs in my
company because of the training, mentoring and develop-
ment they have provided me.



Cpl. Jenevieve R.
Murphy –
European Region
Soldier of the
Year

Unit: JTAGS-Europe, 1st Space Battalion
Home of record: Springfield, Mo.
Spouse’s name/home of record: John R. Murphy/Spring-
field, Mo.
Hobbies: Traveling, reading, going to antique shops
Length of time with the command: 3 months
Education/training: Civilian Education – Bachelor’s degree
from Northeast Missouri State University; juris doctor from
University of Notre Dame Law School. Military Education –
Basic Training – Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; AIT (71L) – Fort
Jackson, S.C.; PLDC – Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.
Future plans: Short-term goal is to be promoted to Ser-
geant. Long-term goal is to serve as an officer in the Judge
Advocate General Corps.
What do you like about being a soldier? Taking care of
soldiers and sailors.
Who is your mentor and why? Sgt. Maj. (retired) Vincent T.
Crosby – he pushed me to be the best soldier I could be
and made me want to strive to do more. He was my first
sergeant major at my first command.



SPC. Robert K.
Orndorff –
Western Region
Soldier of the
Year

Unit: HHC, Army Space Command
Home of record: Manahawkin, N.J.
Hobbies: Hiking, climbing, running
Length of time with the command: 2 years
Education/training: Basic Training – Fort Leonard Wood,
Mo.; AIT (31S) – Fort Gordon, Ga.
What do you like about being a soldier? I like the cohe-
sion, the team and the people; how the Army looks after its
own. No civilian job has programs in place to look after its
people like the Army does.
Who is your mentor and why? Maj. Floyd Light and
Command Sgt. Maj. James Gholson. They are able to filter
through problems and get to the heart of the issue, and
solve what really matters. They exhibit excellent tact, show
extreme concern and drive hard to get things done.

A lot of hard work goes into preparing for the competition. The competitors are sent a list of approximately eight topics that will be addressed at their boards, and these questions are not run of the mill questions. They go deep into the regulations and deep into each subject of the Army.

— Sgt. Maj. Daniel Rutledge



Kwajalein residents participated in their race in February.

Pre-deployment

by Debra Valine
Editor, *The Eagle*

For four months, Army Maj. Cathy Huley had looked forward to a deployment to Hungary. Her family knew that their wife and mother, a member of the 82nd Airborne Division in Texas, had been called up for deployment. It was time.

The last item on her pre-deployment physical was before Thanksgiving 2000 was the mammogram. She made it to Hungary.

The radiologist at Fort Sill, Okla., detected a discoloration, not a lump – on her mammogram. Huley, who now works in Operations for the Department of the Army Office of the General at the Pentagon, had a biopsy and a mastectomy two weeks.

"We really didn't have much time to react," Huley said. "Having breast cancer is not a tragedy, nor is having a mastectomy. There are far worse things in life. Having children, abused and neglected people and dying from undetected breast cancer – those are tragedies."

Huley is one of the lucky ones. People comment that she doesn't look like she was ever sick, yet she had received chemotherapy between January and March 2001. She kept her hair. "I wasn't sick, I had breast cancer."

Race for the Cure

Group leading volunteer effort in capitol region

Volunteers from each of the Army's major commands are combining efforts with other National Capitol Region volunteers for the 2002 Komen National Race for the Cure, scheduled for June 1 in Washington, D.C.

The Race for the Cure Series is the largest series of 5K runs/fitness walks in the world. In 2002 alone, races will be held in more than 100 U.S. cities and three foreign countries with more than 1.3 million participants expected.

All races are sponsored by the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Research Program, and serve as fund-raisers for breast cancer research, education, screening and treatment programs. This year, it is expected that more than \$1 million will remain in Maryland, Washington, D.C., and Virginia.

Lydia Cosumano, a breast cancer survivor and wife of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's Commanding General Lt. Gen. Joseph M. Cosumano Jr.; and Grace Dunn, wife of Col. Michael A. Dunn, commander of the Walter Reed Health Care System, are The Army Team co-captains.

For the second year, the Association of the U.S. Army is sponsoring a rally for The Army Team from the National Capitol Region. The rally will be held immediately after the race.

"This is an extremely important event," said Cosumano. "This is the third year the Army has participated in a race in this area, and each year participation grows. Last year we had around 500 participants. Walter Reed has a tremendous turnout with more than half the participants credited to the medical facility."

Cosumano says she is on a mission to improve awareness about breast cancer. Due to the large turnout for Race for the Cure nationally

and internationally, she sees the race as a key opportunity to increase awareness and educate much of the public on breast cancer issues.

Cosumano also shares her experience and keen knowledge of breast cancer issues through her extensive volunteer work with patients and programs at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center Comprehensive Breast Center.

"This is part of my promise to God for sparing me," she said. She also pledged to stay in touch and provide whatever help she could to the patients, doctors and nurses she met while taking therapy.

"I found out I had breast cancer in April 2000 and had surgery in June," Cosumano said. "I had a cancer that was not very aggressive, but it was lymph node positive, which required chemotherapy and radiation protocol. It was the biggest journey of my life, and I will never forget the people I met along the way, especially my chemo buddies."

Cancer patients become a family because their experiences are so similar, she said.

"You have a choice — to try to live. Each person I have met has given me guidance as to what to do for other patients and their families," Cosumano said. "Most patients don't give much thought to themselves. They worry for the other people in the disease with them. Cancer is a family affair indeed."

In addition to the June 1 National Capitol Region event, races are also scheduled for Aug. 11 in Colorado Springs, Colo., and Oct. 5 in Birmingham, Ala. Kwajalein Atoll held its annual race in February.

For more overall race information, visit the Web at: www.nationalraceforthecure.org. For information on volunteering with other SMDC volunteers, call Susan Jones at (703) 607-2037.

Walter Reed

Walter Reed Army Medical Center is completing a major renovation of a-k

Center that opened in 1992. The Center is completing a major renovation of breast cancer care and breast art equipment.

The Center serves more than 100,000 women a year and sees 350-400 patients.

"Our rate of success in treating breast cancer is high," said Grace Dunn, M.D., said Grace Dunn, M.D., Michael A. Dunn, M.D., Walter Reed Health Care System is co-captain of the National Race for the Cure in Washington, D.C.

"The Center is a more user-friendly environment of having to get to the seven or eight different doctors, the doctors I learned as a patient to take my health into my own hands."

The Walter Reed Health Care System provides clinical research, banking for research, and reduction education.

"We do 10-15 percent of the work," Col. Craig D. Smith, Walter Reed Health Care Center. "But just the risk reduction and risk for cancer is a week in that clinic with 50-patient backlog."

Patients are coming from all over the world, one-third of the patients are from the Army. "We have

Early screening catches soldier's cancer early

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“The first chemotherapy treatment was the worst part,” she said. “You don’t know what to expect because everyone’s body reacts differently. The chemo was worse than the mastectomy.”

Throughout her treatment, Huley and her family received support from their family and friends in Texas as well as throughout the country, and especially their friends in Lawton, Okla., and at Fort Sill, where she decided to get treatment. “I am not the survivor – my family and friends are the survivors.

“When I started losing my hair, my husband, George, shaved my head,” Huley said. Then both George and their youngest son, Christian, then 8 1/2 years old, shaved their heads as well. Huley started keeping three journals to document the human journey, the spiritual journey and what she calls the “funny stuff.” She hopes to one day have the journals published.

We should have talked more

George admits he was angry when he heard the diagnosis, but not because Cathy’s trip to Hungary was canceled.

“We were used to not having Cathy around because she had been deployed off and on throughout her military career,” said George, who is an Army retiree.

“I had a lot of feelings,” George said. “I was resentful of other people because my wife had been diagnosed with breast

cancer. I was angry, but I didn’t know who to be angry with. I was afraid – not that she would die – but what would happen after surgery. I was afraid that, like a rape victim, she would be afraid for me to touch her. In reality, she wanted to be touched, but I was afraid to touch her because I was afraid I would hurt her.”

Now that it is over George said, he wishes they had talked more.

“Communication is key,” George said. “You need to talk, but it’s hard. What helped our recovery a lot is that we have always been an open family.”

People tend to ignore the families because they are so focused on the patient, he said. “I think it would help a lot with recovery if everyone was on the same sheet of music. It bothered me that Cathy jumped right into a mastectomy without consulting me. The decision was hers to make, but I wanted to be consulted. I thought she had not paid enough attention to other options.”

They know that Cathy’s cancer and treatment brought them even closer together.

“Your nuclear family is your support group, and everyone goes through big emotional issues,” George said. “It is hard to watch. Many times, experiences like this can ruin a marriage. For about six months, our relationship was strained. We now have a new normal, and everything is better than the old normal.”

Walter Reed offers comprehensive breast care

Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., has a one-of-a-kind military Breast Care Center opened in July 2001. The center is comparable to leading civilian breast centers with state-of-the-art diagnostic and research facilities. The center evaluates more than 4,000 patients with breast problems and performs more than 1,000 breast surgeries per month. The success at Walter Reed in breast cancer is higher than at any other military hospital. The center is University in Baltimore, Maryland. Col. Dunn, wife of Col. Dunn, commander of the Walter Reed Health Care System. Dunn is a volunteer for the National Cancer Institute's Cure June 1 in Washington, D.C. Dunn has been designed to be a model for the future, Dunn said. “Instead of undressed and dressed patients, we have times to see different doctors come to the patient. The patient to love and appreciate the care workers.”

Walter Reed Breast Care Center provides comprehensive breast care, tissue banking for research purposes, and risk reduction. “We do 12 biopsies a week,” said Lt. Col. Shriver, director of the center. “Just as important is our clinic for those at high risk. We see 8-10 patients a day in the clinic, and there is about a 100-hour wait.”

Patients flown in for treatment from all over the military, with about 100 patients coming from the civilian world. “We have the experts here,”

Shriver said. “People have come from all over the world to expect that.”

Shriver said if breast cancer is caught early, the survival rate should be 90 percent, which is higher than at civilian hospitals. Not only women get breast cancer. One in 100 male patients get breast cancer.

“More than two-thirds of the patients diagnosed here are in stage one cancer,” Shriver said. “That is because screenings in the field detect breast cancer earlier. It may be uncomfortable to get a mammogram, but it is so much better to have the cancer detected early so we can treat it.”

An important component to risk reduction and treatment is research. Nearly 90 percent of the patients being treated at the Breast Care Center participate in a research program by donating tissue to the tissue bank. The Center has facilities to acquire, store and move between facilities, tissue garnered from all breast surgeries.

“The information obtained is linked to a patient database for genomic research,” Shriver said. “The results will accelerate research into the causes of breast cancer and subsequent treatments. Every patient who participates in the program will be contributing to research.”

For more information, visit the Web at: www.cbcp.info.

Breast cancer facts

Breast cancer is a malignant growth of breast tissue. It spreads to nearby lymph glands, lungs, pleura, bone (especially the skull), pelvis and liver. Breast cancer is rare before age 30, and the peak ages are from 45 to 65. The incidence increases after menopause.

Frequent signs and symptoms

- Swelling or lump in the breast
- Vague discomfort in the breast without true pain
- Retraction of the nipple
- Distorted breast contour
- Dimpled or pitted skin in the breast
- Enlarged nodes under the arm (late stages)
- Bloody discharge from the nipple (rare)

Risk increases in women over 50, women who have not had children or who conceived in the late fertile years, family history of breast cancer (especially mother or sister), previous benign tumors of the breast (fibrocystic disease), early menstruation; late menopause; first pregnancy after age 30, previous breast cancer in one breast, radiation exposure, and patients with endometrial or ovarian cancer.

Preventive measures

- Monthly self-examination of breasts for signs of cancer
- Obtain professional examinations regularly
- Obtain a baseline mammogram between ages 35 to 40. Have mammograms every one or two years to age 49 and annually after 50.
- Eat a well-balanced diet that is low in fat. (Studies are inconclusive about high fat and breast cancer risks in humans.)
- If you are pregnant, consider breast-feeding your baby. Women who have breast fed have a lower incidence of breast cancer
- A drug, such as tamoxifen, may be prescribed for women at high risk for breast cancer

Breast cancer is curable if diagnosed and treated early.
(From the Walter Reed Web site at: www.wramc.amedd.army.mil.)

Kwaj commander fulfills wish of leading pipe, drum corps

by Peter Rejcek
Associate Editor, Kwajalein Hourglass

One man's road of dreams led him down the streets of Ebeye, Kwajalein Atoll, drawing hun-

dreds of children along with him like the Pied Piper of Hamelin.

Curtis Wrenn — better known as Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr., U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll commander — fulfilled the second of two Kwajalein wishes in April when he led

the Kwajalein Pipes and Drums Corps through Ebeye. The band played in a variety show sponsored by the Queen of Peace High School senior class to raise money for graduation.

Wrenn, dressed in the full plaid kilts and clean white shirts of the band, played the part of the group's drum major, barking orders and twirling the baton.

Wrenn said there were two leisure things he wanted to do while at Kwaj before he left. Besides joining the Pipes and Drums for a performance, he wanted to DJ a jazz show on the radio. He fulfilled that wish earlier this year.

The variety show, held in the Head Start school courtyard, reportedly raised about \$1,800 to help defray graduation costs for the senior class. The show featured hula and modern dance, as well as one of Ebeye's most popular musical groups, the Sunrise Band.

"[The students] did it all themselves," said Dave Bramlett, a teacher at Queen of Peace.



Col. Curtis Wrenn leads the Kwajalein Pipes and Drum Corps down the streets of Ebeye. The band was the lead act at a variety show sponsored by the Queen of Peach High School senior class to raise money for graduation. (Photo by Peter Rejcek)

Awards/Promotions

Special Act Awards

Gladys Y. Erskine, Contracting & Acquisition Management, Branch K
Paula A. Kennedy, Resource Management, Program Support Division
Cheryl A. Pearson, Resource Management, Program Support Division
Dan A. Ta, Tech Center, Data Analysis & Exploitation Directorate

Performance Awards

Betty B. Bowden, Intelligence Division
Kenneth L. Bragg, Contract Operations Div., Command Support Services Br.
Karen A. Brown, ARSPACE, RSSC-CONUS
Victor H. Cabrera, Resource Management, Accounting Division
Harriet R. Clark, Resource Management, Program Support Division
Evelyn R. Daniels, Information Management, Automation Division
Connie M. Davis, PEO AMD Public Affairs
Mardelle A. Dudash, ARSPACE, RSSC-Europe
Barbara M. Elmore, Resource Management, Program & Policy Division
Dorothy S. Fitzpatrick, Information Management, Automation Division
Amy H. Greer, Contract Operations Div., Command Support Services Br.
Yvonne S. Hampton, Resource Management, Accounting Division
Tamela L. Hancock, MDA/Targets & Countermeasures Long Range Targets Office
Hurley V. Hughes, Resource Management, Accounting Division
Wanda D. Igo, Battle Lab, Analysis & Operations Directorate
Doris H. Ingram, Resource Management, Program Support Division
Elizabeth A. Keglovits, Strategic Planning

& Analysis, Huntsville Office
Molly I. Krisher, Resource Management, Program Support Division
Astrid C. Lahiere, Contracting & Acquisition Mgmt., Command Support Services Br.
Karen A. Lindell, ARSPACE, RSSC-Europe
Michael W. Liston, Intelligence Division
Marion L. Martin, Resource Management, Management Division
Theresa K. McBride, Resource Management, Program & Policy Division
Barbara K. Miskell, ARSPACE, Technical Support Office
Yancy C. Mitchell, Resource Management, Management Division
Nancy A. Parker, Information Management, Communications/Visual Info. Div.
Diane C. Rogers, Resource Management, Program Support Division
Janet L. Siersma, Resource Management, Program Support Division
Rosalind W. Smith, Missile Defense Targets Joint Project Office
Brenda S. Turner, Intelligence, Security Division
Cynthia M. Vanrassen, Legal Counsel Office
Helen M. Walker, Resource Management, Accounting Division
William C. White, Resource Management, Program & Policy Division
Michele D. Williams, Contracting & Acquisition Mgmt., Command Support Services Br.
Debra L. Williams, Information Management, Automation Division

On-The-Spot Cash Awards

Wonda E. Grayson, Resource Management
Michele D. Willliams, Contracting &

Acquisition Mgmt., Command Support Services Br.

Time-Off Awards

Nancy C. Bales, Battle Lab, Studies & Analysis Division
Paula R. Brumlow, Personnel Office, Civilian Personnel Division
Veronica M. Collins, Battle Lab, Exercises & Training Division
Angela Battle Dawkins, Battle Lab, Special Projects Division
Nancy L. Hasbrouck, Battle Lab, Studies & Analysis Division
Carol B. Meenen, Contracting & Acquisition Mgmt., Command Support Services Br.
Rhonda M. Norris, Resource Management, Program & Policy Division
Philip M. Patterson, Battle Lab, Battle Lab Operations Division
Brenda I. Rains, Technical Center
Michelle M. Smartt, Battle Lab, Exercises & Training Division
Sharon P. Upton, Battle Lab, Exercises & Training Division

Promotions

Judith J. Fowler, GS-09, Contracting & Acquisition Management, Branch K
Connie M. Hannaford, GS-11, Personnel Office, Plans, Policy & Training Division
Mona P. Neal, GS-13, Resource Management, Management Division
Beverly L. Osborn, GS-09, Intelligence Office, Intelligence Division
Omega M. Tyson, GS-07, Personnel Office, Civilian Personnel Division
Dorothy K. White, GS-09, Public Affairs

Virtual card says thanks to service members

WASHINGTON, D.C. (American Forces Press Service) — May is National Military Appreciation Month each year. In 2002, with Americans in combat in Afghanistan and positioned to face terrorists around the world, it is even more apt to recognize the sacrifices American service members make for freedom.

A number of events and activities are planned across the country for citizens to show their appreciation to service members. There will also be a way to do that in cyberspace.

Folks who wish to show their appreciation may sign "America's Thank You Note" to the men and women serving in the military. "There are a lot of reasons to be appreciative of the military. This year, of course, there's even more," said David Jackson, editor of DefendAmerica.gov, a U.S. government Web site dedicated to reporting news about the global war against terrorism.

The Thank You Note exists in cyberspace. Anyone with a computer can "sign" the card by going to <http://www.defendamerica.gov/> and following the instructions there. Visitors can type in a name, hometown and state and then click on a button to submit the greeting. When they do that, a message thanks them and adds, "Remember, it doesn't have to be Military Appreciation Month to thank a service member."

Persons without computers can enter DefendAmerica.gov at computer terminals in public libraries or other sites.

"We hope others will take this idea and run with it," said Allison Barber, special assistant to the assistant secretary of defense for public affairs. "My experience is that when we launch an initiative, people around the country take it and make it bigger and better than what we could even hope for."

America's Thank You Note will be available through May 31.

May marks Spouse Appreciation Day, Military Appreciation Month

**Gen. Richard B. Myers, U.S. Air Force
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff**

In tribute to the great men and women who have served their country in uniform, May marks National Military Appreciation Month. We are very grateful to our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen for their commitment to preserving freedom and democracy in our Nation and throughout the world.

This year we celebrated Military Spouse Appreciation Day on May 10. As we salute service members past and present, it is only fitting to recognize those who support them and help make their service possible.

Across the country, loved ones have been separated as service members have been mobilized or deployed in support of the global War on Terrorism. This is a pivotal time in the history of our country and we draw strength by remembering what is at stake in this conflict makes these sacrifices necessary. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families that have lost a loved one who gave that last full measure of devotion to their country during this war.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff and I join all Americans in paying

tribute to the veterans and current members of our Armed Forces — American heroes past and present — for all they have done and all they continue to do in patriotic service to our country. We also salute our military spouses for their vital, continuing support to our men and women in uniform.



Returning Army astronaut Currie shares STS-109 mission

**by Rhonda K. Paige
Arlington, Va.**

It was standing room only for Army astronaut, Lt. Col. (P) Nancy Currie's May 1, presentation to the Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) on her 10-day, 22 hour, Space Shuttle Columbia (STS-109) Mission.

A member of the Army Space Command's Astronaut Detachment, Currie was among five mission specialists of a crew of seven, whose primary mission was to service the Hubble Space Telescope and upgrade its capabilities.

Although Currie has already done numerous, nationwide full-crew post-

flight press briefs, the SMDC presentation was especially significant because it was her personalized report back to "her" Army Command, SMDC, on her role in the success of the STS-109 mission.

Comparing her three prior missions to STS-109, Currie told SMDC attendees that STS-109 and her mission role was definitely one of the busiest and most intense. She was flight engineer and the shuttle robotic arm operator, both critical to the mission focus of upgrading Hubble.

"All the doors of the Hubble can be opened, and you can work on components from any side of the door. We had to be very careful about not damaging any of the pins on the Hubble," said Currie.

"We were also closer to the Hubble than most crews usually are," she said.

Through photos and demonstration, Currie described in detail her experience with applying the robotic arm.

"The robotic arm is just like a human arm. When you are applying the arm, it's like trying to hover a helicopter; a stable platform to work from is critical," said Currie.

When maneuvering the arm, Currie had to perform a 230-degree end of the hand maneuver walk around the hand arm. She and the rest of the crew felt this was probably the hardest part of the entire mission.

"With this mission we would become the crew that either improved Hubble or killed Hubble," said Currie.

In addition to the specific tasks, the preparation for each day was also detailed and required extreme precision by all crewmembers.

"It took us about four and a half hours each day to get everything ready," said

Currie. "We found ourselves sleeping about four hours a day."

Currie relayed to the audience that the sleep deficit was something they all took seriously when they considered that "any" human error could result in or cause a loss of life when you're this far out in space.

Among the measures the crew took to preserve and sustain their health during the mission was daily exercise. Because Currie is barely over 5 feet tall, she had an added advantage as far as reclining in the small space afforded for the stationary space bike. For the other crewmembers, who averaged 6 feet 2, it was quite another challenge.

Physically, Currie said that on this and her previous three missions, she always does super and has little of the nausea and weakness often associated with the initial take-off and first days of a space mission. However, she did experience some of those symptoms post-flight, but to the envy of less fortunate crewmembers, none were too unbearable.

Currie attributes much of the stamina and ease of training for this mission to her background and intense physical training she and all Army officers receive. She said because of that training she's had an easier transition into her role and missions as an astronaut.

Of the multitude of memories and key moments experienced by Currie during the historic STS-109, she found looking out from space down onto the world the most profound and humbling.

"As we traveled through space five miles a second, we were treated to a sunrise and sunset every 90 minutes," said Currie.



(NASA photo)

Astronaut Nancy Currie prior to the STS-109 launch.

Army Training and Leader Development Panel issues report on Noncommissioned Officer study

The Army Training and Leader Development Panel's (ATLDP) Phase II (NCO Study) report is now complete. The study, which follows Phase I (Officer Study), is the largest self-assessment study ever done by the Army. It focuses on training and leader development requirements for NCOs.

"People are the engines of our capabilities and are the most important elements of Army Transformation," said Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, Chief of Staff of the Army. "We need the input of key constituent groups to help chart the proper path to transforming this Army and ATLDP gives us that input."

More than 30,000 active and reserve component officers, warrant officers, noncommissioned officers, enlisted soldiers, and spouses provided input to the study through surveys, participation in focus groups, or personal interviews.

The panel found the study was an assessment to determine how the Army could make a professional NCO Corps even better. The study found NCOs understand Army Transformation and the role the Army and the nation expects them to accomplish. They believe the Army must re-capitalize and modernize the training and leader development tools to enable them to continue being the backbone of the Army.

NCOs are strongly committed to the Nation and the Army. They believe as strongly as those who served before them in service to the nation and the Army. Today's NCOs have a strong service ethic, take pride in the Army and what they do, and are steadfast in accomplishing the mission. Additionally, NCOs believe the Army, while continuing to develop highly professional noncommissioned officers, must assure the well-being of NCOs and their families if it is to continue to attract and retain high quality leaders.

Recommendations in the study's action plan require decisions by Army senior leaders, setting of priorities, and allocation of resources. The Army must reevaluate the way it trains and look for ways to balance requirements and available training time with

competing demands, while providing predictability and reducing personnel turbulence across the force. The recommendations are linked to six of the imperatives established in the ATLDP Phase I (Officer Study).

They are in the areas of: Army culture, NCO Education System (NCOES), training, systems approach to training, training and leader development model, and lifelong learning.

Shinseki chartered the ATLDP in June 2000. The Panel convened at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. The Army Chief of Staff instructed the panel to examine issues affecting training and leader development, and empowered the panel to examine appropriate institutions, processes, tools and the environment. The purpose was to ensure soldiers, leaders and units are capable of successfully operating throughout the full spectrum of operations and the contemporary operational environment.

The Panel completed Phase I (Officer Study) in May 2001. The Army instituted a management process under the proponentcy of the Army G3 to determine the feasibility, suitability and acceptability of the recommendations. The Army integrated the recommendations into its transformation Campaign Plan and has implemented a number of the recommendations and developed actions, decisions and resources required to implement the others.

The ATLDP continues its mission by examining the Warrant Officer Corps (Phase III) and Department of the Army Civilians (Phase IV). The Panel will conclude its mission by developing a final report on training and leader development for the Army that enables battlefield and operational success and develops our operational commanders and leaders to meet the demands of our National Military Strategy.

The ATLDP (NCO Study) report is available at: <http://www.army.mil/a>.

For more information, contact Lt. Col. Henry Huntley or Mike Conroy at Army Public Affairs, (703) 697-7589 or (703) 697-3491.

Blue Star Banner identifies families with soldiers

Kwajalein civilian trying to revive military tradition

by **Jim Bennett**
Editor, Kwajalein Hourglass

Jim Schilling hopes to bring back home-decorating tips from the 1940s and raise awareness about veterans in the process.

Schilling flies in his living room window a Blue Star Service Banner, an 8- by 16-inch banner with a blue star on a white field, surrounded by a red border. The flag

signifies that a member of his family, his son, serves in the U.S. Air Force at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida.

It's an old tradition among military families, dating back to World War I and made popular during World War II.

"It wasn't very popular during Korea," said Schilling, a mission communications supervisor for Raytheon Range Systems Engineering. "And during Vietnam people would get their windows knocked out."

But that changed during DESERT STORM, when the practice began to catch hold again, and with the start of hostilities in the war on terrorists, the flags have gone back up.

"It's patriotism," Schilling said simply.

Guy Baker agrees, displaying a banner poster in his front window for his daughter, Stephanie, who recently completed Air Force boot camp and reported for duty at Shepherd Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas.

"I think with all that's going on, people should publicize that they have someone in their family who is out there, protecting the country," he said.

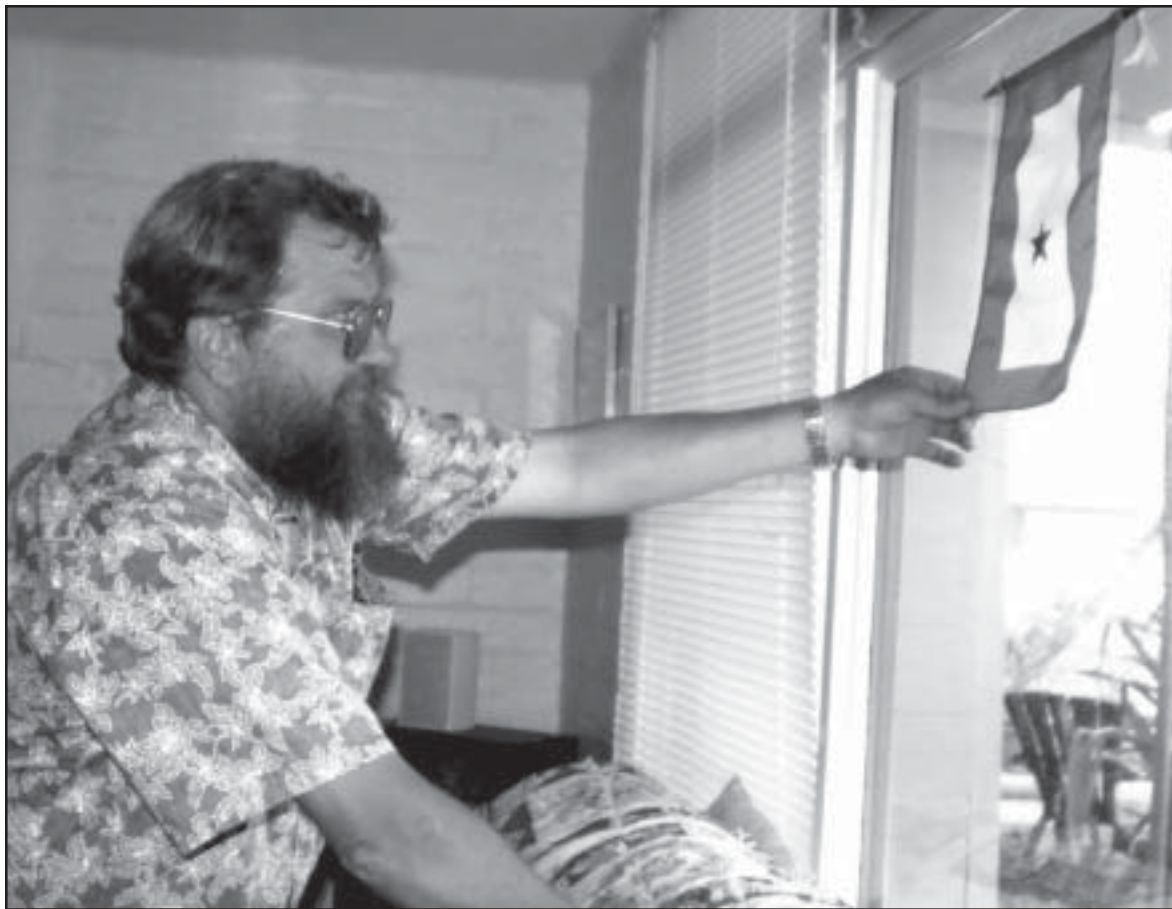
The practice of flying service banners began in 1917 when Capt. Robert Queissner of the 5th Ohio Infantry designed and patented the first flag for his two sons who served in the trenches during World War I. During World War II, the Department of War drafted guidelines for the display of such banners. In short, each blue star represents an immediate family member (father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister and so on) serving in the military.

A gold star, replacing the blue star, represents a family member who has died in a conflict.

Schilling bought a stack of blue star banner posters and wants to distribute them free to the service member families on island in hopes they will make people more aware of the troops at war.

"And heaven forbid," he added. "I can get a gold star flag, too, if we would need one of those, but I hope it doesn't come to that."

Blue Star Service Banners are available online at www.emblem.legion.org or www.ServiceFlags.com.



(Photo by Jim Bennett)

Jim Schilling hangs a star flag in his window. The flag honors his son, who serves in the U.S. Air Force at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida.

AER helps soldiers, families year-round

Army Emergency Relief (AER) on May 15 completed the 2002 Annual Campaign to raise funds for assisting the Army in taking care of its people in need. Funds raised during the campaign help to assist the Army's own, including active and retired soldiers and their families, as well as widows/widowers and their children.

AER, which was established in 1942, has helped more than 2.6 million Army people with more than \$685 million since its inception. Since it does not receive government funds, AER depends on the contributions of soldiers and civilians to continue its mission.

After Sept. 11, 2001, AER successfully constructed a Pentagon Victims' Fund, which received enough contributions to satisfy the emergency financial needs of Army families affected by the attack on the Pentagon.

Though the campaign officially ended in May, AER accepts donations throughout the year for the general fund. Contributions can also be made as memorials, estates or special donations. They can be sent to: HQ AER, 200 Stovall Street, Room 5N13, Alexandria, Va. 22332-0600.

More information on Army Emergency Relief is available at www.aerhq.org.



(Courtesy photo)

Latest developments

Lt. Col. Paul Lepine, left, of the Army Space Program Office, briefs Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology Claude Bolton, center, and Brig. Gen. John M. Urias, SMDC's deputy commanding general for Research Development and Acquisition, on the Grenadier BRAT blue force tracking system and how the system architecture works. Lepine also discussed the EAGLE-I demonstration with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

Brown to become 21st USAKA commander

The incoming commander of the U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll (USAKA) toured the installation in April. He officially takes the helm in August.

Col. Jerry Brown, the 21st Army commander at USAKA, toured Kwajalein, Roi-Namur, Meck and Ebeye during the weeklong visit. The change of command ceremony is scheduled for Aug. 1.

Brown comes to Kwajalein after five years at the Pentagon, first as a plans officer, War Plans Division, HQDA, Pentagon, Washington, D.C., and then as chief of the War Plans Division since June 1999.

He entered the Army as a second lieutenant in 1978. He moved through the ranks and made colonel in 1999.

During that 21-year span, Brown served in a number of field assignments, mainly in Germany and Fort Bliss, Texas, including platoon leader and maintenance officer (later, executive officer), 3rd Battalion, 1st ADA, 3rd Armored Division, Budingen, Federal Republic of Germany; Air Defense fire coordination officer, 1st Battalion, 4th ADA, 11th ADA Brigade (Sep) Fort Bliss, Texas; assistant S-3, 11th ADA Brigade (Sep), Fort Bliss; maintenance officer, 7th Signal Brigade (Sep) Mannheim, Germany; and commander, Headquarters Company, 7th Signal Brigade (Sep), Mannheim.

In the 90s, Brown spent some time in Georgia before returning to Germany. He served as S-3, 2nd Battalion, 1st ADA, 11th ADA Brigade (Sep), Fort Stewart, Ga.; chief of Protocol, Headquarters, Forces Command, Fort McPherson, Ga.; and commander, 5th Battalion, 2nd ADA, 69th ADA Brigade, Bamberg, Germany.

He moved to the Pentagon in 1997.

Decorations and badges include Meritorious Service Medal (with three Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Commendation Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Achievement Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster) and Army Staff Identification Badge.

Brown is married to wife Jane, and has three daughters.



Col. Jerry Brown

SMDC to participate in Millennium Challenge

More than 13,000 U.S. military and civilian personnel, including personnel from the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC), will participate in Millennium Challenge 2002 (MC02). MC02 is a joint integrating event that brings together both live field forces and computer simulation at various locations in the United States from July 24-Aug. 15.

The joint experiment is designed to simulate a realistic 2007 battlefield to assess the interoperability of new methods to plan, organize and fight.

The U.S. Joint Forces Command-sponsored experiment incorporates elements of all military services, U.S. Special Operations Command, most functional/regional commands, and many Department of Defense and federal agencies.

To prepare for the exercise, Joint Task Force participants have trained with MC02's experimental computer network-based command and control tools that will be used for the first time during the experiment, according to Army Lt. Col. Charles Flynn, MC02's training coordinator. More than 50 SMDC personnel will experiment at the Joint Task Force, Joint Force Air Component Command and Army Forces Command Headquarters levels.

Experiment leaders are looking to see if such computer-based, collaborative tools can enhance command and control performance, organization, information flow and decision making during simulated battle sessions. "The lessons learned from this training will have broad impacts and add great value to our joint warfighting concepts," Flynn said.

Information learned and validated during MC02 will help answer questions about the development of a future joint force and provide valuable data to decision-makers responsible for military transformation. This includes gaining insights into the ability of a joint force to execute rapid decisive operations and to produce doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership, personnel and facilities recommendations associated with those insights.

In Memorium

Dr. David Sayles of the Advanced Technology Directorate, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, died April 9. He is credited with 49 1/2 years of government service. He had been employed at the Space and Missile Defense Command since 1970. He was a prolific inventor with more than 300 patents in many technical fields.

Granone receives Astronautics Engineer Award

by Debra Valine
Editor, The Eagle

For the past 14 years, the Huntsville Chapter of the National Space Club has presented its coveted von Braun Astronautics Engineer Award to members of the aerospace community for individual and lifetime achievement.

This year, the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's Jess Granone, director of the Space and Missile Defense Technical Center in Huntsville, Ala., received the award for lifetime achievement in space and missile defense.

Granone was presented the award last month at the Wernher von Braun Memorial Celebration banquet, part of the TEAMS 2002 conference held April 8-12 in Huntsville. TEAMS is an acronym for Technological Excellence in Aviation, Missiles and Space. TEAMS brought together programs addressing all aspects of the nation's growth in high-technology fields, from education and employment to technical issues and future research and development.

Granone, who has 16 years with SMDC, was a bit awed by the award.

"I was very humbled by this award," said Granone, who did not know about the

award until he was asked to attend the ceremony. "When you think of the people who have received this award, it is a pretty elite group. It is hard for me to see myself with these people. These awards are not just for scientific achievement, but also for achievement in the community."

The Space Club presents the award for efforts in space development and exploration. Past winners include the teams who developed the Hubble Space Telescope and the Super Lightweight External Tank for the Space Shuttle.

"A committee reviews accomplishments of everyone in the aerospace industry, focusing on those in Huntsville," said Jim French, chairman of the von Braun Memorial Celebration this year. "It was a beautiful experience to present the award to Jess, and it was a pleasure to have him, his wife and their two girls present for the evening."

The Albuquerque, N.M., native was accompanied by his wife Cathy, and daughters Tiffany, 22, and Jessi, 8. Granone said having his family on the stage with him made the evening special.

"My 8 year old is a very brave soul," Granone said. "She walked right up to the podium to stand beside me. It was not just the award that meant a lot. A lot of people I know were there, too."

Granone also is humble when he talks of advances made in technology at the Technical Center, and those to come. Granone has seen missile technology grow from small nuclear warheads to the hit-to-kill technology demonstrated by the Patriot.

"We started doing hit-to-kill experiments about 15 years ago," Granone said. "That is when we really got involved in hit-to-kill and guidance and control systems that are required to do intercepts within the atmosphere. We did some exo-atmospheric experiments, but they were not as rigorous. My contention is that it is a whole lot harder to intercept a target in the atmosphere than it is out of the atmosphere."

He attributes the success of the Patriot program to systems engineering.

"Systems engineering made the PAC-3 development and integration possible, leading to an agile and very effective missile," Granone said. "The system has been very successful. If you look at the test records we had, there have only been one or two occasions in developmental and operational testing where the system has not performed as expected."

Improving on guidance and control, sensors and building a smaller vehicle are all in scope for future technology for Army warfighters, he said.

"We have to be able to discriminate between targets when there is more than one object in the field of view," Granone said. "We need radar and missile systems that can process data and work together. The next evolution is to develop a two-color sensor rather than the one-color sensor we now have in kill vehicles. The next generation kill vehicle would have a laser radar to help in the discrimination. After that we are going to pursue miniature kill vehicles, each with their own sensor and guidance and the capability to shoot multiple targets."

Granone expects to field single color operational sensors by 2002, two-color sensors by 2004 and laser radars shortly after that. He said the mini kill vehicles probably will not be available within this decade.

"I am proud of the history of SMDC technology," Granone said. "The Ground-based Midcourse Defense, Theater High Altitude Air Defense (THAAD), PAC-3 and Ground-based radar all came out of here. These are our successes. If we cannot hand off technology and have it developed for use in the field, we do not have success."



(Photo by Debra Valine)

Jess Granone, director of the Space and Missile Defense Technical Center in Huntsville, Ala., discusses the history of the Space and Missile Defense Command's missile program. The National Space Club presented him with the Aerospace Engineer Award for lifetime achievement.

TEAMS research grants

Federal agencies provide funds to schools

Seven universities and their student researchers were awarded research and development contracts totaling nearly \$1 million during the 2002 TEAMS Conference held in Huntsville, Ala., in April. The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, in cooperation with the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command and NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center pulled together the \$933,000, according to Mark Lumer, the SMDC principal assistant for Contracting and Acquisition Management.

Lumer noted that 43 research proposals in robotics, advanced propulsion, novel power sources, and enhanced vision sensors were submitted. He said the actual research, though important, is only one way the three government agencies hope to benefit through this program. He said federal agencies sometimes overlook the importance of bringing younger people into the work force. By arranging to have student researchers participate in the projects, the agencies hope to encourage some students to consider government careers.

One challenge the government faces is the aging of its work force. At SMDC, only 17 of 1,700 employees are younger than 30.

"We've got to attract younger workers to replace the ones that will leave someday," Lumer said.

The six contracts include:

- University of Alabama, \$119,963 to develop safer, more reliable solid propellants,
- University of Alabama, \$113,104 to develop enhanced thermal batteries,
- University of Tennessee and North Carolina State University, \$182,950 to develop enhanced long range automatic target recognition sensors,
- Vanderbilt University, \$199,935 to develop a robot team for perimeter surveillance and reporting,
- New Mexico Technical School, \$127,273 to refine current analysis of energy power sources,
- Purdue University, \$195,775 to investigate non-toxic, safe, storable propellants.

Proposals for next year may be submitted at any time and will be judged quarterly, according to Lumer. Awards will not be announced until the 2003 TEAMS Week, but those who get their entries in earliest have a better shot at research dollars, he said.

Students attend Space Camp, courtesy of ASMDA

by Debra Valine
Editor, The Eagle

Twelve-year-old Patrick Moore, son of Michael and Elisabeth Moore of Colorado Springs, Colo., recalls his first memories of wanting to attend Space Camp. "I have wanted to be an astronaut since the first time I saw a space shuttle."

And now he's had his chance. Moore is one of four students who recently attended a weeklong Space Camp at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Ala. Moore, Korrina Casale and Molly Bush of Colorado Springs, and Tim Barr of Washington, D.C., received scholarships to attend the camp, courtesy of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Association.



Korrinna Casale takes control.

Each year the association awards scholarships to children of families with financial need. The scholarships — valued at \$1,750 — include one week at Space Camp, round trip airfare from the parent's work location, a Space Camp flight suit, a Space Camp clothing package, a phone card and a small amount of spending cash.

Because the scholarship does not include airfare for a parent to accompany the child, if air travel is required, parents must be willing to allow their child to travel unaccompanied or make their own arrangements for the accompanying ticket.

"I was really excited about coming to Space Camp," Moore said. "I've wanted to attend Space Camp since I was 9 years old."

Casale, 12, is the daughter of Linda Oellig of the Army Space Command personnel office. "My Mom called and said I won the scholarship," Casale said. "I was excited because I knew that without the scholarship, my Mom would not be able to send me."

Though she wants to be a veterinarian, Casale enjoyed the opportunity to command the Atlantis Mission. "I love to solve problems."

Ten-year-old Molly Bush, daughter of James and Paula Bush, seemed a bit overwhelmed by the experience.

"When I get home, I will tell my classmates how big Space Camp is," Bush said. "They should all apply for the scholarship and come to camp next year."

Tim Barr, 11, said Space Camp taught him a lot about space that he did not know. "I learned about rockets, space shuttles, engines ... The whole thing was really cool." Barr, the son of Timothy Barr Sr., was nominated by the Space and Missile Defense Command in Arlington, Va.

For Kelley Zelickson, president of the association, sending the children to Space Camp allowed her organization to make a positive difference in the lives of children.



(Photos by Debra Valine)

Elaine Gray, left, an instructor at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Ala., helps Tim Barr perform a task.



From right, Molly Bush, Korrina Casale and Patrick Moore practice mission control skills.

"We are very excited to provide an opportunity to send children of employees of the Space and Missile Defense Command and Army Space Command to Space Camp," Zelickson said. "Our association's purpose is to promote Space, Space training and Space education, so we felt it was a wonderful opportunity to connect the Space & Rocket Center with children of employees who work for Space-related organizations."

The Army Space and Missile Defense Association is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to support the Space and Missile Defense Command in the attainment of its goals and vision.



(Courtesy photo)

Safety, health day at SMDC

Employees of the Space and Missile Defense Command turned out in large numbers for the half-day Safety and Health Fair April 23 in Crystal City, Va. The informal event provided employees with wellness information, tests/checks of blood sugar and cholesterol levels, body fat composition, therapeutic and wellness programs, analysis of running shoes, techniques for improved health, emergency preparedness, fire prevention, radon detection and mitigation, stress relief, and samples of healthy foods and beverages.

Army Space units in Europe analyze satellite data to keep forces communicating, aware of threats

by Mike Howard
Army Space Command PAO

STUTTGART, Germany — Petty Officer 2nd Class Wilfred Caldero and Sgt. Dan Locey sit in their Joint Tactical Ground Station (JTAGS) compound monitoring computer terminals linked to satellites, analyzing data that could indicate incoming missiles.

"This is lifesaving work we're doing here," said Caldero. "If there's a missile going to Israel — or anywhere — we could be the first to detect and the first to report. We're gonna save lives in the end. That gives us a sense of urgency, a sense of meaning."

And that is a step toward understanding the complexity of U.S. Army Space Command — regular people doing their parts in 24-hour operations that potentially impact lives and military operations.

Another step comes through a look at two other dimensions of Army Space in Europe. Besides providing missile warning through JTAGS Europe — an element of 1st Space Battalion — Army Space plans and controls satellite communications in this region of the world through two elements: the Regional Satellite Communications Support Center at Patch Barracks a few miles from here and C Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion in Landstuhl about 120 miles northwest.

The constant, though, is the level of urgency.

"We never know what the information is that is going across our satellites," said Sgt. 1st Class Javier Montero, operations platoon sergeant for C Company in Landstuhl. He oversees the enlisted soldiers who monitor the communication satellites for the company.

"We can't afford to fail," Montero said. "To us, there is nothing more important than the user. Our pride is 99.9 percent reliable. That has become our standard, if not 100 percent. That's important because our satellites provide the first means of communications to the soldier in the field."

Which draws the link to the regional center in Stuttgart.

"Where they control the satellites real-



(Photos by Mike Howard)

Petty Officer 2nd Class Wilfred Caldero types in a message as Sgt. Dan Locey monitors the computer screen linked to satellites which relay data. Caldero and Locey work in the 15th Air Defense Joint Tactical Ground Station Europe — part of 1st Space Battalion — located in Stuttgart, Germany.

time, what we do is plan or schedule the satellite linkage for the units going to the field," said Sgt. 1st Class Mark Stroup, a ground mobilization force manager.

The reason this is important, Stroup said, is because the critical aspects of satellite communications revolve around what the soldiers in the business call bandwidth and power. There's a limit, so they have to "engineer solutions to the warfighter's requirements."

"We coordinate satellite access — connectivity — to ensure there's enough power and bandwidth to do what the units want to do. We have to balance what they need with everyone else's needs," Stroup said.

"Satellites are shared repeaters with a finite amount of space to pass information," said Staff Sgt. William Norton, another ground mobilization force manager at the regional center. "We need to make sure you've got your spot and everyone else has theirs. If not, there'll be overlap. If there's overlap, nobody communicates."

"On the other hand, there's only a certain amount of power. So if we overload, everyone's power drops due to the saturation."

Stroup explained that while he and his

fellow Army managers work requirements for Super High Frequency communications, fellow service members and contractors in the regional center manage three other areas critical to satellite communications. Managers from the Air Force and Navy handle similar requirements on Extremely High Frequency, Ultra High Frequency and the Global Broadcast System — all using different satellites.

Without getting too technical, Stroup said that collectively the regional center works field communication requirements for all services in the European region.

"Satellites don't care if you're Army, Navy, Air Force or Marine," he said. "It's all the same. It's a complicated thing to understand, but we can't afford to look at our jobs through our own service."

Once Stroup and his fellow Army managers schedule it, the UHF signals join others going across satellites within the Defense Satellite Communications System. Sergeants like Bryan Marine and John Bennett in C Company in Landstuhl then work a high-tech floor of equipment used to monitor the satellites in their region.

"It's like playing traffic cop," Bennett said. "Our ultimate goal is to keep everybody talking. There's only so many cars that can get on the highway, so we keep things flowing smoothly."

Which leads to one last step in understanding what Army Space does in Europe.

"I've had a lot of people ask me questions like: 'If you're not an astronaut, what are you doing in Army Space Command?' Myself included when I first came," said Montero. "I tell them we provide a rapid means of setting up a communications link so they can talk — the guys in Stuttgart plan it for them and we monitor it as it happens. The bottom line is we control satellites for them."

"And I tell them we provide missile warning," said Locey from his seat in front of the JTAGS monitor. "When people think of us, they think of the World War III scenario where there's big missiles flying. But we're actually a group of regular soldiers and sailors — the information we have pertains to all services — quietly doing our real-world mission everyday."

"If it comes to our area of responsibility, the world is pretty much our scope," said Caldero. "From right here in Germany."



Sgt. 1st Class Mark Stroup and Staff Sgt. William Norton build a Satellite Access Authorization for a ground force unit operating in the European Command theater at the Regional Satellite Communications Support Center in Stuttgart, Germany.